

Appl. No. 09/590,099
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Reply to Office action of June 12, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for providing a collaborative workspace for sharing data a plurality of users with network-based groupware application functionality, comprising:

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Sub B1
- (i) a network-connected server capable of receiving an initiate instruction from a primary user, said server for maintaining a hierarchy between said primary user and at least one secondary user;
 - (ii) a site builder for creating a dedicated site on said server in response to said initiate instruction, said dedicated site defining said collaborative workspace;
 - (iii) a transmitter for sending information about the existence of said dedicated site to said at least one secondary user nominated by said primary user;
 - (iv) a communicator for transmitting information data (a) between said dedicated site and, said primary user and (b) between said dedicated site and said at least one secondary user, said data being shared in accordance with said hierarchy between said users via said dedicated site;
 - (v) memory for storing information at data associated with said dedicated site, said information data from said primary and said at least one secondary user; and said information
 - (vi) a processor for processing said information stored data at said dedicated site said processed information data being transmitted by said communicator to said primary user and said at least one secondary user.

2. (currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein said processed data is stored by said primary user and said at least one secondary user.

3. (cancelled).

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4. (original)The system according to claim 1, wherein said primary and said at least one secondary users communicate via a web-browser.
 5. (original)The system according to claim 1, wherein said server contains an address database of communication addresses for said at least one secondary user connected to said network.
 6. (original)The system according to claim 5, wherein said network includes an internet connection.
 7. (amended)The system according to claim 1, wherein said primary and said at least one secondary users accessing said ~~communication~~ network are assigned a unique personal workspace for providing said primary and said at least one secondary users with access to features of said network designated for said primary and said at least one secondary users.
 8. (original)The system according to claim 1, wherein a user is assigned a password enabling access to predefined sites within said server.
 9. (original)The system according to claim 1, wherein the processor includes providing the primary user with a workgroup activity application.
 10. (original)The system according to claim 9, wherein said workgroup activity application is selected from the group comprising bulletin board, chat room, calendar, contact database, change control, event planner, group discussion, issue management, project collaboration, presentation library, decision survey in a box, NGS proposal development and document management.
 11. (original)The system according to claim 10, wherein said primary user is an advisor and said at least one secondary user is a client.
 12. (original)The system according to claim 11, wherein said bulletin board and document management includes recommended advice and research documents from said advisor.
 13. (currently amended)The system according to claim 12, wherein said chat room includes an on-line chat between said advisor and said client.
 14. (original)The system according to claim 12, wherein said calendar and event planner include a list of tasks to be done and a list of upcoming events.

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15. (original)The system according to claim 12, wherein said group discussion includes a discussion between said advisor and said client.
16. (original)The system according to claim 1, wherein said transmitter is selected from the group comprising e-mail, a pop-up window, a telephone, and a facsimile.
17. (currently amended)A method for providing a communication network, comprising:
- (i) providing an network-connected server having upload and download capabilities;
 - (ii) receiving instructions uploaded from a first user and for creating a dedicated network site on said server, said dedicated network site having a unique name based on instructions received;
 - (iii) communicating the existence of said dedicated network site to a nominated second user;
 - (iv) downloading contents of data from said dedicated network site to said first and second users;
 - (vi) storing ~~information~~ data to be shared by said users in the dedicated network site.
18. (original)The method according to claim 17, wherein said contents are downloaded to said first and second users via a web-browser.
19. (currently amended) A computer configured to operate a groupware application program, the computer comprising:
- ~~(vii)~~(i) a network for connecting to at least a primary and a secondary user;
 - ~~(viii)~~(ii) a site builder for receiving instructions input from said primary user and for creating a dedicated site within the computer based on said instructions;
 - ~~(ix)~~(iii) a mailer for looking up an address of said secondary user from an address database;
 - ~~(x)~~(iv) a communicator for communicating the existence of said dedicated site to said secondary user;
 - ~~(xi)~~(v) memory for storing information at said dedicated site at the request of the primary and the secondary user; and
 - ~~(xii)~~(vi) a processor for processing said stored information at the request of the primary and the secondary user.

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20. (original) A data carrier having thereon a computer program for performing the steps of:
- facilitating communication between a server, a primary user and a secondary user;
 - (i) creating a dedicated site within the server based on instructions input from the primary user;
 - (ii) looking up address of the secondary user from an address database;
 - (iii) communicating the existence of the dedicated site to the secondary user;
 - (iv) storing information at the dedicated site at the request of the primary and the secondary user; and
 - (v) processing the stored information at the request of the primary and the secondary user.
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21. (new) A system for providing a collaborative workspace, comprising:
- a. means for creating a dedicated network site on a network-connected server in response to instructions received from a primary user, said site defining said collaborative workspace;
 - b. a data structure for storing i) a list of secondary users nominated by said primary user and ii) access control defined by the said primary user governing use of information by said primary and secondary users at said dedicated network site.
22. (new) A system as defined in claim 21, said instructions being received from a web browser.
23. (new) A system for providing a collaborative workspace, comprising:
- a. a dedicated network site on a network-connected server, said site being accessible from a web-browser by at least a primary user, said site defining said collaborative workspace;
 - b. a data structure for storing i) a list of secondary users nominated by said primary user and ii) access control defined by the said primary user governing use of information by said primary and secondary users at said dedicated network site.
24. (new) A system as defined in claim 23, including a means for creating said dedicated site in response to said instructions received from a primary user.
25. (new) A system as defined in claim 21 or 23, said data structure storing said shared information.
26. (new) A system as defined in claims 21 or 23 including a messaging system for communicating existence of the dedicated network site to selected ones of said list of secondary users.

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27. (new) A system according to claims 21 or 24, said means for creating including templates, said templates defining parameters for creating said dedicated site.
28. (new) A system according to claim 27, including creating a copy and saving said created dedicated site.
29. (new) A system according to claim 27 said templates providing for the designation of a name of a workgroup and the name of the site to be created, a description of the project being undertaken and a list of team members.
30. (new) A system according to claims 21 or 23 said dedicated site including a scheduling application.
31. (new) A system according to claim 30, said scheduling application including a calendar function.
32. (new) A system according to claim 30, said scheduling application including a project collaboration application.
33. (new) A system as defined in claims 21 or 23, said dedicated site including a project collaboration application.
34. (new) A system as defined in claims 21 or 23, said dedicated site including a project collaboration application and scheduling application.
35. (new) A system as defined in claim 34, including said primary user being provided with a workgroup activity application.
36. (new) A system according to claim 21 or 23, said dedicated site including a workgroup activity application selected from the group comprising bulletin board, chat room, calendar, contact database, change control, event planner, group discussion, issue management, project collaboration, presentation library, polling survey in a box, proposal development and document management.
37. (new) A system according to claim 21 or 23, said dedicated site including two or more workgroup activity applications selected from the group comprising bulletin board, chat room, calendar, contact database, change control, event planner, group discussion, issue management, project collaboration, presentation library, polling survey in a box, proposal development and document management.

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38. (new) A system according to claim 21 or 23, said data structure storing information requested by at least one user.
39. (new) A system as defined in claims 21 or 23, said dedicated site including an address database of communication addresses for said at least one secondary user.
40. (new) A system as defined in claim 26, said messaging system including an email system.
41. (new) A system as defined in claims 21 or 23, including a processor for processing information associated with said dedicated site, said processed information being transmitted to at least one user.
42. (new) A system as defined in claims 21 or 23, said dedicated site including notification indicating presence or absence of one or more of said users from said site.
43. (new) The system according to claim 21 or 23) including creating and saving a copy of a configured workgroup.
44. (new) The system according to claim 21 or 23 said primary user being presented with a plurality of workgroup creation templates.
45. (new) The system according to claim 27, said primary user being presented with a plurality of workgroup creation templates.
46. (new) The system according to claim 29, said primary user being presented with a plurality of workgroup creation templates.
47. (new) The system according to claim 21 or 24, said means creating a workgroup by executing a sequence of logically related templates.
48. (new) The system according to claim 27 said means creating a workgroup by executing a sequence of logically related templates.
49. (new) The system according to claim 29, said means creating a workgroup by executing a sequence of logically related templates.
50. (new) The system according to claim 21 or 24, said means comprising a workgroup creation template.

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51. (new) The system according to claim 50, said template providing for the selection of a workgroup application.
 52. (new) The system according to claim 27, said template providing for the selection of a workgroup application.
 53. (new) The system according to claim 29, said template providing for the selection of a workgroup application.
 54. (new) The system according to claim 50, said primary user selecting a workgroup activity application.
 55. (new) The system according to claim 39, wherein an external user's address can be added to the address database.
 56. (new) The system according to claim 21 or 24, said users being assigned a unique personal workspace.
 57. (new) The system according to claim 56, said server including means for automatic creation of a link between each secondary users personal workspace and said newly created dedicated network site.
 58. (new) The system according to claim 21 or 24, wherein a user is assigned a password enabling access to other dedicated network sites.
 59. (new) The system according to claim 21 or 24, in which said access control providing for at least one secondary user having one or more attributes in common with said primary user.
 60. (new) The system according to claim 59, said attributes including rights to administer said dedicated site.
 61. (new) The system according to claim 57, said link being a mark-up language based link.
 62. (new) The system according to claim 21 or 24, said access control providing for at least two groups of secondary users, each group sharing at least one access attribute.
 63. (new) A data carrier having thereon a computer program for performing the steps of:
 - a. creating a dedicated network site on a network-connected server in response to instructions received from a primary user;
 - b. storing in a data structure i) a list of secondary users nominated by said primary user and ii) access control defined by the said primary user governing use of information by said primary and secondary users at said dedicated network site.

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64. (new) A data carrier having thereon a computer program for performing the steps of:
- a. facilitating access of a dedicated network site on a network-connected server from a web-browser, by at least a primary user;
 - b. storing in a data structure i) a list of secondary users nominated by said primary user and ii) access control defined by the said primary user governing use of information by said primary and secondary users at said dedicated network site.
65. (new) A method for providing a collaborative workspace, comprising the steps of:
- a. creating a dedicated network site on a network-connected server in response to instructions received from a primary user;
 - b. storing in a data structure i) a list of secondary users nominated by said primary user and ii) access control defined by the said primary user governing use of information by said primary and secondary users at said dedicated network site.
66. (new) A method for providing a collaborative workspace, comprising the steps of:
- a. facilitating access of a dedicated network site on a network-connected server from a web-browser, by at least a primary user;
 - b. storing in a data structure i) a list of secondary users nominated by said primary user and ii) parameters defined by the said primary user for use of information by said primary and secondary users at said dedicated network site.